



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Central Valley Region



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Mitchell Shultz
Stonehouse Vineyards and Winery, LLC
10861 Shenandoah Road
Plymouth, CA 95669

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY OF RESOLUTION NO. R5-2003-0106 STONEHOUSE VINEYARDS AND WINERY, INC., AMADOR COUNTY

Regional Board staff has reviewed your 6 July 2004 Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) and subsequent information received on 23 July 2004 for coverage under Regional Board Resolution No. R5-2003-0106, Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Food Processors, Including Wineries, Within the Central Valley Region. The RWD included a Notice of Non-Applicability for compliance with the stormwater General Permit and an \$872 filing fee. Our review finds the RWD to be complete.

Resolution No. R5-2003-0106 (a copy of which is enclosed), adopted by the Regional Board on 11 July 2003, is a conditional waiver of waste discharge requirements for small food processors including wineries. Based on the information you have submitted, the discharge as described in the RWD satisfies the general and specific conditions of Resolution No. R5-2003-0106 for the projected volume of wastewater to be produced.

Discharge Description

Stonehouse Vineyards and Winery, LLC (Discharger) owns the Stonehouse Vineyard and Winery at 10861 Shenandoah Road. The winery is on 6.9 acres. Future plans include planting 3 acres of vineyards, building a tasting room, and landscaping around the property. During the first year of operation (crush 2004), the Discharger estimates that approximately 70 tons of grapes will be crushed, resulting in approximately 5,000 cases of wine being produced. The Discharger expects to generate approximately 3.7 gallons of wastewater for every gallon of wine produced, resulting in approximately 44,000 gallons of wastewater. The Discharger has indicated that it may crush more than 70 tons of grapes in the future and that the winery will adjust its operations and/or quantity of grapes crushed as needed to produce less than 100,000 gallons of wastewater and comply with the waiver. All activities producing wastewater will be conducted under the cover of an enclosed building or roofing, and process wastewater will be piped directly to a 4,000-gallon storage tank. Visual observations of the tank will be made on a regular basis to determine when the tank needs to be pumped. Once the tank is 75% full, the wastewater will be pumped or transported to the land application area.

The primary method of wastewater disposal will be to apply wastewater, via spray emitters from a truck-mounted tank, to approximately 4.7 acres of native grassland (of which three acres will be planted with

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vineyards in the near future). In addition to this area, wastewater will also be used for the irrigation of 0.9 acres of landscape area around the winery. The Discharger has estimated the maximum volume and strength of wastewater that will be produced and has calculated the expected maximum hydraulic and agronomic loading rates for the proposed disposal area. Based on these calculations, the proposed primary disposal area (5.6 acres of grasses, vineyards, and landscape areas) should have adequate hydraulic and nutrient uptake capacity to receive the total wastewater discharge from this facility and remain protective of groundwater and surface water quality. The Discharger has identified several Best Management Practices that will be followed in order to minimize wastewater strength and potential odor problems, and to prevent hydraulic or nutrient overloading. The estimated volume of wastewater used to calculate the maximum loading rates was 100,000 gallons per year.

Prior to the 2004 crush, the Discharger has indicated that it will install an in-line flow meter that tracks cumulative wastewater volumes produced. Winery personnel will record flow meter readings at least weekly during the crush and at least monthly during the remainder of the year. In addition, records will be maintained to track the amount of wastewater that is disposed of to the land application areas. Wastewater volume data will be compiled and included in an annual report.

If prolonged precipitation or operational issues arise, the Discharger may hire a licensed hauler to dispose of wastewater to an approved wastewater treatment facility.

Solid waste produced by the facility will consist of approximately two to three tons of grape stems, six to eight tons of pomace, and two to three cubic yards of lees, assuming that 70 tons of grapes are crushed. The primary method of handling solid waste will be on-site composting. Solid waste will be stored and composted on a 10-foot by 30-foot area. An approximately one foot berm will surround all sides of the composting pad. The compost area will be excavated approximately one to two feet deep and lined with HDPE liner to prevent leachate from entering the soils. Finished compost will be applied to grasslands, future vineyard, and landscape areas. Compost will be spread over or tilled into the soil, depending on the area that is receiving the material. Typically, compost will be tilled into bare before planting or seeding and spread in a manner that will limit the potential for erosion of compost into surface drainages or surface waters.

As a contingency solid waste management option, the Discharger will transport the waste to the Calaveras County Solid Waste Disposal Facility for disposal.

Conditional Waiver

Based on the information submitted in the RWD, the discharge as described above satisfies the general and specific conditions of Resolution No. R5-2003-0106 for the current amount of wastewater produced. Therefore, this letter serves as formal notice that Resolution No. R5-2003-0106 is applicable and waste discharge requirements for this facility are waived.

Enclosed is a copy of Resolution No. R5-2003-0106 and the associated monitoring and reporting program. As described therein, an annual report must be submitted by 1 February of each year. In addition, the Discharger must submit a report no later than 1 October 2004 describing the installation of the flow meter. Flows must be metered beginning with the 2004 crush.

If the discharge violates the terms or conditions of the waiver, the Regional Board may take enforcement action, including assessment of administrative civil liability. If the method of winery wastewater or

solids disposal change from those described in the RWD, you must submit a new RWD. Please note that the waiver will expire on 11 July 2008, at which time you must submit a new RWD with filing fee to renew the waiver, or cease the discharge.

If your total annual flow exceeds 100,000 gallons per year, the waiver is no longer applicable to your facility and you must submit a new RWD for individual Waste Discharge Requirements.

If you have any questions, please contact Scott Kranhold at (916) 464-4689.

--Original Signed By--

THOMAS R. PINKOS
Executive Officer

enc: Resolution No. R5-2003-0106

cc w/o enc: Mike Israel, Amador County Environmental Health Department, Jackson